

FREDERICK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

The Bourne Building
355 Montevue Lane, Suite 101
Frederick, MD 21702
Telephone: 301-600-8683 FAX: 301-600-2344

MINUTES of the MARCH 8, 2017 Monthly Meeting of The Frederick County Board of Elections

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 PM, in Room 108 of the Bourne Building at 355 Montevue Lane by the Board President, Mrs. Mary Lou Green.

PRESENT:

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| Mary Lou Green, President | Stuart Harvey, Election Director |
| Mark P. Jeffers, Jr., Vice President | Marc R. Welch, Election Administrative Assistant |
| Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary | |
| Carlotta C. Joyner, Board Member | |
| William L. Woodcock, Board Member | |
| Daniel B. Loftus, Board Attorney | |

ADDITIONS / CHANGES TO AGENDA:

Mr. Harvey added information about scheduled voter registration volunteer training classes to New Business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 1, 2017 BOARD MEETING:

Mr. Jeffers moved to approve as written the minutes of the February 1, 2017 board meeting. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS:

Council Liaison was not present for this meeting.

ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Harvey reports post-election maintenance is continuing. Staff continues working on voter updates. The agreement with the City of Frederick to support their 2017 Elections has been signed by the City and will be approved by our office today. Candidate filing window for the 2018 elections has opened as of February 28, 2017 and remains open until February 27, 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

FY 17 BUDGET UPDATE:

Mr. Harvey reports that while some items are over budget, overall the budget is healthy, and there are plenty of funds available for the remainder of the fiscal year. Due to MAEO conference reservations being inadvertently charged to office supplies, rather than travel/training, the office supply category shows as over budget. The ledger will be corrected with the County.

New document scanners for the office are arriving soon, and two new office chairs have been purchased for staff use.

CITY OF FREDERICK 2017 ELECTIONS:

At their last meeting, the City of Frederick Mayor and Board of Aldermen approved the agreement with our office. Additionally, they have approved Early Voting for the 2017 elections. The city will have 11 precincts with 7 polling places.

Mr. Harvey has met with staff regarding City needs, and will have a follow-up meeting to begin to plan processes. Staff questions have been forwarded to Phyllis Hane, the city's election liaison.

Work on election judge manuals and training schedules has begun. Mrs. Schultz will be preparing a list of our election judges who are City residents, as well as those who are County residents who worked in City polling places during the 2016 Election.

Mr. Hill asked about the process for adjusting and updating City precinct boundaries. Mr. Harvey explained that the City will provide a written description of those boundaries so the MDVOTERS street file can be updated and revised Voter Notification Cards can be sent to residents effected by precinct or polling place changes.

Mr. Jeffers asked that since the City does not have provisional voting, how will judges handle the situation? Mr. Harvey said there was nothing we can do since it would have to be added to City election law, but the City may be using Temporary Certificates of Registration.

Mr. Woodcock asked how we bill the City for time spent working on City election tasks. Mr. Harvey said staff would track time, and the Board would bill the City on a monthly basis. The office won't charge extra for regular work which happened to cover City residents, but would charge for tasks relating exclusively to the City election. Rates billed would be based on each staff member's equivalent hourly rate.

POST ELECTION MAINTENANCE:

PEM is ongoing. Ballot packing is complete, and work is beginning on ExpressVote BMD and DS200s. Once complete, 850+ voting booths will be examined for damages and sent for repairs.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE:

Mr. Harvey briefed the Board on the following bills:

- HB0073 Election Law - Election Judges - Minimum Age and Minimum Compensation
- HB0143 Elections - Miscellaneous Duties and Procedures
- HB0169 State Board of Elections - Open Meetings - Video Streaming and Recording (State (SB0091) Board of Elections Transparency Act)
- HB0345 Elective Franchise - Registration and Voting at Polling Place (SB0423)
- HB0529 Election Law - Political Parties, Candidacy, and Campaign Finance

HB0532 Election Law - Qualification of Voters - Proof of Identity
(SB1132)

HB0539 Election Law - Voter Registration and Absentee Voting - Proof of Citizenship

HB0619 Election Law - Campaign Signs at Polling Places
(SB0882)

HB0741 Election Law - Automatic Voter Registration
(SB0938)

MAEO ANNUAL MEETING:

Mr. Harvey reminded the Board that paperwork for spouses or guests are due in April.

BYLAWS REVIEW:

Ms. Joyner made a motion to propose an amendment to the Bylaws to change Section 4.2(b)(8)(a) to read "Members may not sign a petition related to a matter that will or is likely to result in a referendum question or other action that will be on a ballot in Frederick County." Ms. Joyner proposed this amendment because the existing restriction in Section 4.2(b)(8)(a) is not common to the Bylaws in other counties.

Mr. Harvey stated that any petition question has the potential to be on a ballot in Frederick County and that it would be hard to anticipate if a question would or wouldn't end up on a ballot.

Mr. Loftus mentioned that the since staff is responsible for verifying all signatures on a petition, there could be a perception of bias on the Board. He went on to say that even if there were different rules for different kinds of petitions, there could still be a public perception of partisanship and that people could use the presence or lack of a signature to advance a different cause.

After further discussion, Ms. Joyner withdrew the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

2018 ELECTION CALENDAR:

Mr. Harvey distributed an updated 2018 Election Calendar, highlighted important dates, and discussed when party central committee elections occur.

CANDIDATE FILING:

Candidate filing window has opened as of February 28, 2017 and it remains open until February 27, 2018. Mr. Harvey reports that the new candidate filing system is integrated into the MDVOTERS system.

VOTER REGISTRATION VOLUNTEER TRAINING:

Mr. Harvey discussed the specific processes and purpose of Voter Registration Volunteer training to be scheduled with the Frederick County Democratic Central Committee on March 22, 2017, and with the Frederick County Republican Central Committee on April 13, 2017.

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING: The Board scheduled its next meeting for 12:30 PM on Wednesday April 5, 2017 in Room 108 of the Bourne Building at 355 Montevue Lane.

ADJOURNMENT AND EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 3:00 PM, Mr. Loftus requested that the Board meet in Executive Session in room 108 of the Bourne Building at 355 Montevue Lane. This action is in accordance with the authority granted under the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, Sections 10-508 (1)(i) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction. Mr. Jeffers moved to adjourn the meeting and proceed to Executive Session. Ms. Joyner seconded the motion and it was unanimous.


Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Marc R. Welch
Election Administrative Assistant

Approved by:



Mary Lou Green, Board President

1/29/18

Date